PATENT COOPERATION TREATY







INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 bel | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| M/44295-PCT International application No. | International filing date (day/month/year) | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/yea | |
| | 10/11/2003 | 11/11/2002 | |
| PCT/EP 03/12527 | 10/11/2003 | 11/11/2002 | |
| Applicant | | | |
| NUVERA FUEL CELLS EUROPE | S.R.L. | | |
| This International Search Report has be according to Article 18. A copy is being | een prepared by this International Searching Auth transmitted to the International Bureau. | nority and is transmitted to the applicant | |
| This International Search Report consis | | | |
| X It is also accompanied | by a copy of each prior art document cited in this | report. | |
| Basis of the report | | | |
| a. With regard to the language, the language in which it was filed, to the language in which it was filed. | ne international search was carried out on the ba unless otherwise indicated under this item. | sis of the international application in the | |
| the international search Authority (Rule 23.1(b) | n was carried out on the basis of a translation of t). | he international application furnished to t | |
| | and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the in | nternational application, the international | |
| | ational application in written form. | | |
| المسيدا | nternational application in computer readable for | m. | |
| | to this Authority in written form. | | |
| <u></u> | to this Authority in computer readble form. | | |
| the statement that the | subsequently furnished written sequence listing on as filed has been furnished. | does not go beyond the disclosure in the | |
| | information recorded in computer readable form | is identical to the written sequence listing | |
| 2. X Certain claims were f | ound unsearchable (See Box I). | | |
| 3. Unity of invention is | lacking (see Box II). | | |
| 4. With regard to the title , | | | |
| • | submitted by the applicant. | | |
| | blished by this Authority to read as follows: | | |
| L | | RE PROFILE | |
| L | RATOR WITH ASYMMETRIC PRESSU | RE PROFILE | |
| 5. With regard to the abstract, | | | |
| the text has been esta | s submitted by the applicant. blished, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Author the date of mailing of this international search re | rity as it appears in Box III. The applicant port, submit comments to this Authority. | |
| 6. The figure of the drawings to be p | published with the abstract is Figure No. | 6 | |
| | nolicent | None of the figure | |
| as suggested by the a | ррисан. | | |
| | failed to suggest a figure. | | |

CT MATTER H01M8/04

H01M8/24

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \mbox{IPC 7} & \mbox{H01M} \end{array}$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

| C. DOCUM | ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-------------------------|
| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Helevant to dail in No. |
| X | EP 0 999 605 A (HONDA MOTOR CO LTD) 10 May 2000 (2000-05-10) | 1-5,7-9, 11,15 |
| Υ | column 5, paragraph 18 — column 6, paragraph 27 column 8, paragraph 32 — paragraph 37 column 9, paragraph 42 — paragraph 44; claims 1-12; figures 2,8,11,12 | 12-14 |
| X | US 3 926 676 A (FRIE WOLFGANG ET AL) 16 December 1975 (1975-12-16) | 1-4 |
| Υ | column 3, line 43 - column 4, line 59 column 6, line 26 - line 66 | 1-4,11 |
| Υ . | US 4 233 146 A (KATTERMANN DIETRICH E ET AL) 11 November 1980 (1980-11-11) column 2, line 35 - column 3, line 68; figures 1a,1b,2a,2b,2c,2e | 1-4, 11-14 |
| | -/ | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Special categories of cited documents: A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance. | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the |
| *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | document is combined with one or more other such docu- ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. |
| *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | *&* document member of the same patent family |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search | Date of mailing of the international search report |

alte of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/09/2004

31 August 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Further documents are listed in the $\,$ continuation of box C.

Authorized officer

Wiedemann, E

Patent family members are listed in annex.

2

| (Continua ategory ° | ONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| ategory | GB 1 214 359 A (ALLMANNA SVENSKA ELEKTRISKA AKTIEBOLAGET) 2 December 1970 (1970-12-02) | 1-15 |
| | the whole document | |
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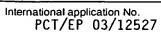
FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 16

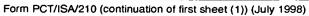
Present claim 16 relate to an extremely large number of possible apparatus. In fact, the claims contain so many options that a lack of clarity (and conciseness) within the meaning of Article 6 PCT arises to such an extent as to render a meaningful search of the claims impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and concise).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.





| Box I O | bservations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet) |
|--------------|---|
| This Interna | ational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: |
| 1. CI be | . aims Nos.: cause they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: |
| be an | aims Nos.: 16 cause they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: ee FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210 |
| | aims Nos.: cause they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). |
| Box II O | oservations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) |
| 1. | all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all |
| sea | archable claims. |
| 2. As | all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment any additional fee. |
| 3. As cov | only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report vers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: |
| 4. No res | required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is tricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: |
| | • |
| | |
| Remark on | Protest |



Information on patent family members

PCT/EP 03/12527

| Patent documented in search res | | Publication date | | Pater // | Publication date |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| EP 0999605 | A | 10-05-2000 | JP CA EP US | 2000149977 A 2287809 A1 0999605 A2 6416899 B1 | 30-05-2000 06-05-2000 10-05-2000 09-07-2002 |
| US 3926676 | A | 16-12-1975 | DE CA FR GB JP | 2109034 A1 986984 A1 2126395 A5 1375437 A 57059631 B | 02-11-1972 06-04-1976 06-10-1972 27-11-1974 15-12-1982 |
| US 4233146 | Α | 11-11-1980 | NONE | , | |
| GB 1214359 | Α | 02-12-1970 | FR US | 1570671 A 3492166 A | 13-06-1969 27-01-1970 |



